Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Supervisor's Report on Use of Force

Incident Information

URN: 019-10232-2608-050	Date: 07/18/19	Time: 1842 hrs.
Location: [redacted] East Avenue R12	City or Station: Palmdale	
Bureau/Station/Facility: Palmdale Station	Admin. Investigation: ○ YES ◉ NO	
Type of Force: Impact Weapons, Personal weapons, Control Holds		
Incident Category: ○1 ○2 ◉3	Deputy Injury: ◉ YES ○ NO	Suspect Injury ◉ YES ○ NO
☒ Call ☐ Observation ☐ Detail	☐ Foot Pursuit	☐ Vehicle Pursuit
IAB Notified: ◉YES ○ NO	Person Notified: Lieutenant M. Dinh Emp: [redacted]	IAB Roll Out ◉ YES ○ NO

Involved Employee

E1

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	Middle I.	Rank
[redacted]	Gregg	Zachary	P	DSG

Sex	Race	Height	Weight	Age	Shift	
◉ M ○ F	W	5-10	190	[redacted]	○ EM ○ Day ◉ PM	◉ Regular Shift ○ OT Shift ○ Off Duty

Unit of Assignment: Palmdale Station
Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): 263T1
Individual Force Used: Control Holds, Personal Weapons
○ Directed ○ Rescue ○ Medical Assist
Individual Category ○1 ○2 ◉3
☒ Injured ☐ Treated ☐ Admitted Facility:
Coroner Case #

E2

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	Middle I.	Rank
[redacted]	Guerra	Alex	F	DSG

Sex	Race	Height	Weight	Age	Shift	
◉ M ○ F	H	6-02	225	[redacted]	○ EM ○ Day ◉ PM	◉ Regular Shift ○ OT Shift ○ Off Duty

Unit of Assignment: Palmdale Station
Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): 263K
Individual Force Used: Personal Weapons, Impact Weapon -)
○ Directed ○ Rescue ○ Medical Assist
Individual Category ○1 ○2 ◉3
☐ Injured ☐ Treated ☐ Admitted Facility:
Coroner Case #

E3

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	Middle I.	Rank
[redacted]	Fisher	Raquel		DSG

Sex	Race	Height	Weight	Age	Shift	
○ M ◉ F	H	5-04	140	[redacted]	○ EM ○ Day ◉ PM	◉ Regular Shift ○ OT Shift ○ Off Duty

Unit of Assignment: Palmdale Station
Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): 264
Individual Force Used: Control Holds, Impact Weapon - Baton
○ Directed ○ Rescue ○ Medical Assist
Individual Category ○1 ◉2 ○3
☐ Injured ☐ Treated ☐ Admitted Facility:
Coroner Case #

☐ Additional Involved Employees

On Duty Supervisor

Emp. #	Last Name	First Name	Middle I.	Rank	Present	Witness to Incident
[redacted]	Riddle	Erik	M	Sgt.	YES ○ NO ◉	YES ○ NO ◉

Supervisor Completing Investigation

Emp. #	Last Name	First Name	Middle I.	Rank	Present	Witness to Incident
[redacted]	Camacho	Omar		Sgt.	YES ○ NO ◉	YES ○ NO ◉

Watch Commander / Supervising Lieutenant

Emp. #	Last Name	First Name	Middle I.	Rank
[redacted]	Kopperud	Ronald	W	Lt.

Watch Commander / Supervising Lieutenant's **Signature:** Date Copy Provided to Employee by: Emp #:

Unit Commander **(Print Name)** Unit Commander's **Signature**: Emp #: Date

DISCOVERY Use Only
FO#

☐ PPI REVIEW COMPLETED

Original: Discovery Unit
Copy: Unit Commander

Supervisor's Report on Use of Force
INVOLVED EMPLOYEE - Continuation

0 1 9 - 1 0 2 3 2 - 2 6 0 8 - 0 5 0

Involved Employee

E 4

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	Middle I.	Rank
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	DSG

Sex:	Race:	Height:	Weight:	Age:	Shift:	
(●) M ( ) F	B	6-0	190	[redacted]	( ) EM ( ) Day (●) PM	(●) Regular Shift ( ) OT Shift ( ) Off Duty

Unit of Assignment: Palmdale Station

Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): 260F

Individual Force Used: Control Holds

( ) Directed ( ) Rescue ( ) Medical Assist

Individual Category: (●) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3

☐ Injured ☐ Treated ☐ Admitted Facility: ____________

Coroner Case #

E /

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	Middle I.	Rank

Sex:	Race:	Height:	Weight:	Age:	Shift:	
( ) M ( ) F					( ) EM ( ) Day ( ) PM	( ) Regular Shift ( ) OT Shift ( ) Off Duty

Unit of Assignment:

Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):

Individual Force Used:

( ) Directed ( ) Rescue ( ) Medical Assist

Individual Category: ( ) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3

☐ Injured ☐ Treated ☐ Admitted Facility: ____________

Coroner Case #

E /

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	Middle I.	Rank

Sex:	Race:	Height:	Weight:	Age:	Shift:	
( ) M ( ) F					( ) EM ( ) Day ( ) PM	( ) Regular Shift ( ) OT Shift ( ) Off Duty

Unit of Assignment:

Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):

Individual Force Used:

( ) Directed ( ) Rescue ( ) Medical Assist

Individual Category: ( ) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3

☐ Injured ☐ Treated ☐ Admitted Facility: ____________

Coroner Case #

E /

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	Middle I.	Rank

Sex:	Race:	Height:	Weight:	Age:	Shift:	
( ) M ( ) F					( ) EM ( ) Day ( ) PM	( ) Regular Shift ( ) OT Shift ( ) Off Duty

Unit of Assignment:

Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):

Individual Force Used:

( ) Directed ( ) Rescue ( ) Medical Assist

Individual Category: ( ) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3

☐ Injured ☐ Treated ☐ Admitted Facility: ____________

Coroner Case #

E /

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	Middle I.	Rank

Sex:	Race:	Height:	Weight:	Age:	Shift:	
( ) M ( ) F					( ) EM ( ) Day ( ) PM	( ) Regular Shift ( ) OT Shift ( ) Off Duty

Unit of Assignment:

Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):

Individual Force Used:

( ) Directed ( ) Rescue ( ) Medical Assist

Individual Category: ( ) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3

☐ Injured ☐ Treated ☐ Admitted Facility: ____________

Coroner Case #

Supervisor's Report on Use of Force
SUSPECT INFORMATION

0 1 9 - 1 0 2 3 2 - 2 6 0 8 - 0 5 0

Suspect Information

S 1

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Armed? Select
Chavez	Jorge		Not Armed

AKA Last Name | First Name | Middle Name

Sex	Race	Age	Height	Weight	D.O.B.	Phone #1: ○ H ○ W ○ C	Phone #2: ○ H ○ W ○ C
(●) Male ○ Female	H	38	5-11	213	12/06/81	none	

Street Address: [redacted] City: [redacted] State & Zip Code: [redacted]

Booking #: 5691733 Primary Charge Code: 273.5(a) PC Secondary Charge Code: 69 PC [redacted] Criminal History

Treated on Scene? (●) YES ○ NO Name: LA County Fire Dept. Unit: Engine 3 Phone #: 323-268-5884

Hospital Admission? ☐ Rec'd Treatment At: Palmdale Med. Center Coroner Case #: Mental History ☐ User's guide provides direction on this entry

By: Dr. Wilson Address: 38600 Medical Center Dr., Palmdale CA Phone #: 661-382-5000

Under Influence: (●) YES ○ NO Substance: Marijuana 5150 a factor in force? ○ YES (●) NO User's guide provides direction on this entry

Suspect Interview

Date: 07/19/19 Time: 0306 ☒ Audiotape: ☐ Videotape: ☒ Photos of Injuries: ☒ ADMITS HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Suspect Information

S /

Last Name | First Name | Middle Name | Armed? Select

AKA Last Name | First Name | Middle Name

Sex: ○ Male ○ Female | Race: | Age: | Height: | D.O.B. | Weight: | Phone #1: ○ H ○ W ○ C | Phone #2: ○ H ○ W ○ C

Street Address: City: State & Zip Code:

Booking #: Primary Charge Code: Secondary Charge Code: ☐ Criminal History

Treated on Scene? ○ YES ○ NO By: Unit: Phone #:

Hospital Admission? ☐ Rec'd Treatment At: Coroner Case #: Mental History ☐ User's guide provides direction on this entry

By: Address: Phone #:

Under Influence: ○ YES ○ NO Substance: 5150 a factor in force? ○ YES ○ NO User's guide provides direction on this entry

Suspect Interview

Date: Time: ☐ Audiotape: ☐ Videotape: ☐ Photos of Injuries: ☐ ADMITS HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Suspect Information

S /

Last Name | First Name | Middle Name | Armed? Select

AKA Last Name | First Name | Middle Name

Sex: ○ Male ○ Female | Race: | Age: | Height: | D.O.B. | Weight: | Phone #1: ○ H ○ W ○ C | Phone #2: ○ H ○ W ○ C

Street Address: City: State & Zip Code:

Booking #: Primary Charge Code: Secondary Charge Code: ☐ Criminal History

Treated on Scene? ○ YES ○ NO By: Unit: Phone #:

Hospital Admission? ☐ Rec'd Treatment At: Coroner Case #: Mental History ☐ User's guide provides direction on this entry

By: Address: Phone #:

Under Influence: ○ YES ○ NO Substance: 5150 a factor in force? ○ YES ○ NO User's guide provides direction on this entry

Suspect Interview

Date: Time: ☐ Audiotape: ☐ Videotape: ☐ Photos of Injuries: ☐ ADMITS HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

☐ **Additional Suspects Involved**

Supervisor's Report on Use of Force
EMPLOYEE / NON-EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

0 1 9 - 1 0 2 3 2 - 2 6 0 8 - 0 5 0

Employee Witnesses

Emp. #	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
[redacted]	Riddle	Erik	M

Unit of Assignment:	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):	Shift:	
Palmdale Station	260S	○ EM ○ Day ◉ PM	○ Regular ◉ OT ○ Off Duty

Emp. #	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name

Unit of Assignment:	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):	Shift:	
		○ EM ○ Day ○ PM	○ Regular ○ OT ○ Off Duty

Emp. #	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name

Unit of Assignment:	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):	Shift:	
		○ EM ○ Day PM	○ Regular ○ OT ○ Off Duty

Non-Employee Witnesses

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Age	D.O.B.
[redacted]	[redacted]			Adult

Street Address	City	Zip Code	Phone #1	Phone #2
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Age	D.O.B.

Street Address	City	Zip Code	Phone #1	Phone #2

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Age	D.O.B.

Street Address	City	Zip Code	Phone #1	Phone #2

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Age	D.O.B.

Street Address	City	Zip Code	Phone #1	Phone #2

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Age	D.O.B.

Street Address	City	Zip Code	Phone #1	Phone #2

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Age	D.O.B.

Street Address	City	Zip Code	Phone #1	Phone #2

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Age	D.O.B.

Street Address	City	Zip Code	Phone #1	Phone #2

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Age	D.O.B.

Street Address	City	Zip Code	Phone #1	Phone #2

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Age	D.O.B.

Street Address	City	Zip Code	Phone #1	Phone #2

☐ **Additional Witness**

Supervisor's Report on Use of Force

019 - 10232 - 2608 - 050

Method

(AW) Arwen
(BC) Baton: (Control)
(BI) Baton: (Impact)
(BF) Bodily Fluids
(CN) Canine
(CR) Carotid Restraint
(CH) Choke Hold
(CT) Control Holds: (Control Techniques)
(TT) Control Holds: (Team Takedown)
(TD) Control Holds: (Takedown)
(CE) Chemical
(OC) Chemical Agents (OC Spray)
(TG) Chemical Agents (Tear Gas)
(EX) Explosives
(FH) Firearm (Handgun)
(FR) Firearm (Rifle)
(FS) Firearm (Shotgun)
(FO) Firearm (Other)
(FB) Flashbang
(FL) Flashlight
(OE) Other Weapon: Edged
(OV) Other Weapon: Vehicle
(OB) Other Weapon: Blunt Object
(OO) Other Weapon: Other
(PK) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Kick)
(PS) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Sweep)
(PH) Personal Weapon (Hand/Arm)
(PP) Personal Weapon (Push)
(PO) Personal Weapon (Other)
(RS) Resistance
(RO) Restraint Device (Other)
(RH) Restraint Device (Handcuffs)
(HB) Restraint Device: Hobble (Legs Only)
(TP) Restraint Device: Hobble (TARP)
(RE) Restraint Device: REACT Belt
(SP) Sap
(SH) Shield
(IR) Less Lethal Impact Round (other)
(SB) Sting Ball
(ST) Stun Bag
(TR) Taser
(UC) Uncooperative
(HR) High Risk

Type of Injury

(AB) Abrasion
(BR) Bruise
(BU) Burn
(CP) Complaint of Pain
(CO) Concussion
(DH) Death
(DI) Dislocation
(DB) Dog Bite
(FR) Fractures
(GS) Gunshot
(HB) Human Bite
(LC) Lacerations
(ND) Nerve Damage
(OD) Organ Damage
(PA) Paralysis
(PW) Puncture Wound
(SD) Soft Tissue Damage
(ST) Sprain/Twists
(UN) Unconscious
(RM) Refused Med Treatment
(NN) NONE

Body Part Involved

(AD) Abdomen
(AK) Ankle
(AR) Arm
(BK) Back
(BT) Buttocks
(CH) Chest
(EL) Elbow
(FA) Face
(FE) Feet
(FI) Fingers
(GE) Genitals
(GR) Groin
(HD) Hands
(HE) Head
(HI) Hip
(IN) Internal
(KN) Knees
(LE) Leg
(NK) Neck
(NO) Nose
(SH) Shoulder
(WR) Wrist

FORCE USED BY		FORCE USED AGAINST		Method (Code)	Type of Injury (Code)	Body Part (Code)
Name	E# or S#	Name	E# or S#			
Chavez	S#1	Gregg	E#1	RS	N/A	N/A
Gregg	E#1	Chavez	S#1	PH	N/A	HE
Gregg	E#1	Chavez	S#1	CT	N/A	HE
Chavez	S#1	Gregg	E#1	HR	N/A	N/A
Gregg	E#1	Chavez	S#1	PH	CP	HE
Guerra	E#2	Chavez	S#1	CT	N/A	AR
Chavez	S#1	Gregg	E#2	PO	SD	HE
Gregg	E#1	Chavez	S#1	PH	CP	FA
Guerra	E#2	Chavez	S#1	PO	FR	AD
Chavez	S#1	Gregg	E#1	RS	AB	HI
Guerra	E#2	Chavez	S#1	PO	CP	GR
Guerra	E#2	Chavez	S#1	FH	FR	FA
Gregg	E#1	Chavez	S#1	PO	CP	FA
Fisher	E#3	Chavez	S#1	BI	CP	AD
Chavez	S#1	Gregg	E#1	RS	N/A	N/A
Fisher	E#3	Chavez	S#1	CT	N/A	LE
Guerra	E#2	Chavez	S#1	RH	N/A	WR
[redacted]	E#4	Chavez	S#1	RH	N/A	WR

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INCIDENT:	**Category 3 Use of Force (Mandibular fracture, Fractured ribs)**
IAB FILE NUMBER:	**FO 2489019**
URN NUMBER:	**019-10232-2608-050**
DIVISION / UNIT:	**North Patrol Division / Palmdale Station**
DATE / TIME:	**Sunday, July 18, 2019, 1842 hours**
LOCATION:	[redacted] **East Avenue R12, Palmdale**
SUSPECT:	**Jorge Chavez, MH/38, DOB 12/06/81**
INVOLVED PERSONNEL:	**Deputy Zachary Gregg, #**[redacted]**, Unit 263T1** **Deputy Alex Guerra, #**[redacted]**, Unit 263K** **Deputy Raquel Fisher, #**[redacted]**, Unit 264** **Deputy** [redacted]**, #**[redacted]**, Unit 260F**

SYNPOSIS:

On July 18, 2019, an Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) Force and Shooting Rollout Team comprised of Lieutenant Minh Dinh and Sergeants Omar Camacho and John Steele, responded to the above location regarding a Category 3 use of force. Deputies Zachary Gregg, Alex Guerra, Raquel Fisher, and [redacted] assigned to Palmdale Station, responded to a domestic violence service call and used force against Suspect Jorge Chavez. The incident was documented under URN 019-10232-2608-050 **[EXHIBIT A]**. During the incident, Suspect Chavez sustained two fractured ribs (Left rib fracture 8th and 10th) and a fractured jaw (Right mandibular fracture).

Suspect Chavez was transported to Palmdale Regional Medical Center where he was treated for his injuries and received medical clearance for booking **[EXHIBIT B]**.

CASE SUMMARY:

On July 18, 2019, at approximately 1842 hours, Palmdale Station deputy personnel responded to an emergent call at [redacted] regarding a domestic violence just occurred call (273.5 JO). Deputies Gregg, Guerra, and Fisher arrived on scene and saw Suspect Chavez had a choke hold on Witness [redacted]. Suspect Chavez was behind Witness [redacted] as he had his forearm around her neck. The deputies noticed Witness [redacted] was unable to break free from the choke hold. Witness [redacted] was gasping for air and her face began changing color, as it appeared she was unable to breathe.

Deputies Gregg and Guerra ran toward Suspect Chavez and ordered him to release her. Deputy Gregg punched Suspect Chavez several times in the face and head as Deputy Guerra attempted to pull Suspect Chavez's forearm. Deputy Fisher arrived at the location, activated the duplex patch and put out radio transmissions, requesting assistance for deputies involved in a fight.

During the struggle with Suspect Chavez, they slipped and fell on the muddy front yard grass area of the residence. Deputy Gregg attempted a carotid restraint on Suspect Chavez, but was not able to apply the hold. Deputy Guerra kneed Suspect Chavez in the left rib area several times. He believed his knee strikes allowed Witness [redacted] to break free of Suspect Chavez.

Deputy Fisher assisted Witness [redacted] to safety as Suspect Chavez continued to fight with Deputies Gregg and Guerra. While on the ground, Suspect Chavez elbowed Deputy Gregg in the face. Deputy Gregg reacted and punched Suspect Chavez several times in the face and head area. While fighting with deputies on the ground, Suspect Chavez reached for Deputy Gregg's handgun. Deputy Gregg felt Suspect Chavez pulling on the handgun back and forth while in his holster. Deputy Guerra yelled at Deputy Gregg and told him Suspect Chavez had his gun. Deputy personnel believed their lives were in danger and reacted to this active threat.

Deputy Guerra unholstered his own firearm and hit Suspect Chavez in the face with the barrel of his gun. Deputy Guerra warned Suspect Chavez he would be shot if he did not stop fighting. Suspect Chavez challenged Deputy Guerra to kill him. Deputy Fisher struck Suspect Chavez's right arm and left ribcage area with her expandable baton several times. Deputy Gregg pressed his fingers into Suspect Chavez's eyes and pulled his head back in an upward motion. Deputy Guerra then pushed his firearm against Suspect Chavez's head and again warned him he would be shot. Suspect Chavez conceded and yelled for the deputies to stop. Suspect Chavez released his grip of Deputy Gregg's firearm, but placed his arms under his body.

Deputy [redacted] arrived on scene and assisted deputy personnel with gaining control of Suspect Chavez's arms, and placing them behind his back. Deputy Guerra and Deputy [redacted] handcuffed Suspect Chavez without further incident. Additional

Palmdale Station units responded to the location of incident, including a field supervisor, Sergeant Erik Riddle (Unit 260S). Sergeant Riddle acknowledged his response to the location via radio and arrived in approximately three minutes. Upon arrival, Sergeant Riddle contacted the involved deputy personnel on scene.

Deputies Gregg, Guerra, Fisher, and [redacted] adhered to the use of force reporting procedures. They prepared written reports describing their observations and actions, which were consistent with their initial verbal report to Sergeant Riddle.

Suspect Chavez complained of pain to his ribs and head. Suspect Chavez was treated on scene by paramedics and Los Angeles County Fire Department Engine 131, under the supervision of Captain Brigance. He was transported to Palmdale Regional Medical Center where he was treated for his injuries by Doctor Cory Wilson. Doctor Wilson confirmed Suspect Chavez sustained fractures to his 8th and 10th left ribs, and to the right side of his jaw. Suspect Chavez received medical clearance to be booked at Palmdale Station.

During the investigation, IAB Investigators learned Witness [redacted] had recently separated from Suspect Chavez, her [redacted] of 16 years. He had threatened to kill her and commit suicide in front of their [redacted] just before she called Palmdale Station. Deputy personnel stated they were unable to de-escalate the confrontation with the Suspect Chavez. Upon their arrival, he was actively choking the victim.

IAB Investigators interviewed Suspect Chavez at Palmdale Station after the booking process. Photographs of Suspect Chavez and alleged injuries were taken **[EXHIBIT C – Photographs IAB interview]**.

INVOLVED PERSONNEL/WORK HISTORY:

Gregg, Zachary, Deputy, #[redacted]
Palmdale Station

Date of Employment:	09/02/2010
Date assigned to unit:	[redacted]
Date Completed Patrol Training:	
Prior Shooting Incident(s):	
Prior Founded Force Incident(s):	[redacted]

Guerra, Alex, Deputy, #[redacted]
Palmdale Station

Date of Employment:	04/23/2012
Date assigned to unit:	[redacted]
Date Completed Patrol Training:	
Prior Shooting Incident(s):	
Prior Founded Force Incident(s):	

Fisher, Raquel, Deputy, #[redacted]
Palmdale Station

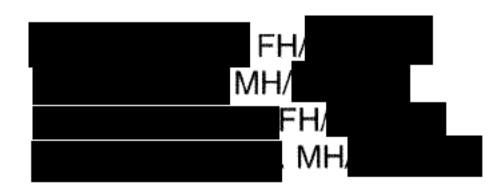
Date of Employment:	01/13/2014
Date assigned to unit:	[redacted]
Date Completed Patrol Training:	[redacted]
Prior Shooting Incident(s):	[redacted]
Prior Founded Force Incident(s):	[redacted]

[redacted], Deputy, #[redacted]
Palmdale Station

Date of Employment:	01/25/2006
Date assigned to unit:	[redacted]
Date Completed Patrol Training:	[redacted]
Prior Shooting Incident(s):	1
Prior Founded Force Incident(s):	[redacted]

NON-EMPLOYEE WITNESSES:

The listed individuals were present during the use of force incident, but were not interviewed by IAB Investigators.


[redacted] FH/[redacted]
[redacted] MH/[redacted]
[redacted] FH/[redacted]
[redacted] MH/[redacted]

IAB Note: **IAB Investigators contacted Witness [redacted]. She admitted to moving out of the city of Palmdale after the incident, due to fear of Suspect Chavez. Witness [redacted] did <u>not want</u> to participate in an interview and requested her [redacted] not be contacted.**

SUSPECT INFORMATION:

Chavez, Jorge MH/38, DOB 12/06/81, 511, 213 LBS.,
Currently serving 3 years State Prison
CII #[redacted] MAIN #[redacted] FBI #[redacted]

A check of the Consolidated Criminal History Reporting System/Criminal Information Index (CCHRS/CII) revealed Suspect Jorge Chavez [redacted]. For further, refer to a copy of Suspect Chavez' CCHRS/CII printouts, presented in the **Miscellaneous Documents** section of this case book.

SUSPECT INJURIES:

Suspect Jorge Chavez sustained two fractured ribs (left rib fracture 8th and 10th) and a fractured jaw (right mandibular fracture). Suspect Chavez was treated for his injuries by Dr. Cory Wilson from Palmdale Regional Medical Center (PRM). Doctor Wilson said Suspect Chavez's injuries were consistent with being involved in a physical altercation.

> **IAB Note: A medical waiver was signed by Suspect Chavez and medical records were obtained by IAB investigators.**

Palmdale Station Sergeant Nathan Grimes responded to PRM. Sergeant Grimes conducted a field interview of Suspect Chavez at PRM and documented Suspect Chavez's injuries.

DEPUTY PERSONNEL INJURIES:

Deputy Gregg sustained an abrasion to his right hand and redness to his forehead. Deputy Guerra sustained an abrasion to his left hand **[EXHIBIT C – Photographs of deputy personnel]**.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

No physical evidence was collected from the scene; however, video of the scene and photographs of injuries sustained were taken.

INVESTIGATORS' OBSERVATIONS:

The residence was located on East Avenue R12, [redacted] houses [redacted] from 30th Street East. There was a surveillance camera affixed to the top right corner of the garage. The camera faced toward the street and driveway area of the residence. The camera was non-functional, therefore no video surveillance footage of incident was recovered.

The scene was described and video recorded by Sergeant Riddle. Sergeant Riddle recorded the outside of the residence and the front yard area, where the incident took place. Sergeant Riddle canvassed area and conducted field interviews **[EXHIBIT C – Videos]**.

> **IAB Note: Six hours elapsed between the use of force and IAB Investigator observations. Due to the early morning hours, IAB Investigators were unable to observe the area during daylight.**

WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL

Deputy Fisher used an expandable baton on Suspect Chavez during the incident.

Deputy Guerra used his firearm as an impact weapon to Suspect Chavez's head. IAB investigators obtained photographs of the firearm and reviewed the damage to the X300 Surefire light attachment **[EXHIBIT C – Photographs of firearm]**.

WEAPONS USED BY THE SUSPECT

None.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

None.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION CHARGES

Palmdale Station Detectives submitted the criminal complaint to the Antelope Valley Courthouse, District Attorney's Office. On July 22, 2019, one count of Domestic Violence with Injury, 273.5(a) PC, one count of Terrorist Threats, 422(a) PC, and two counts of Obstructing/Resisting a Peace Officer, 69 PC, were filed. On March 20, 2020, Suspect Chavez was convicted on the Domestic Violence and Obstructing/Resisting a Peace Officer charges and sentenced to three years in State prison.

LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

Daylight, dry and warm temperatures.

RADIO TRANSMISSIONS

On the date of incident, IAB Investigators retrieved the radio transmissions of the incident. IAB Investigators reviewed and compared those transmissions, with the Sheriff Communications Center (SCC) audio **[EXHIBIT C – SCC Radio Transmissions]**, associated with the incident. The following is a brief synopsis of those transmissions:

DISPATCH 15

1840 hours – 911 call for service.

1841 hours – SCC call broadcast.

1844 Hours – SCC call update Code 1M for officer safety.

1845 Hours – Units advised they were going 97.

1846 Hours – 264F advised deputies involved in a fight, assistance request.

1846 Hours – 260S advised he is responding to location.

1847 Hours – Aero down SCC.

1848 hours – Code 4 broadcast.

PALMDALE METRO L-TAC

1843 hours – Units coordinating and advised they had less lethal weapons.

SURVEILLANCE VIDEO

There were no video recordings of the use of force incident located or identified by IAB Investigators.

INVOLVED EMPLOYEE STATEMENTS

The following narratives are intended only as a synopsis of the interviews. Additional information and precise wording may be obtained by reviewing the digitally audio recorded interviews and verbatim transcriptions. IAB investigators reviewed all reports authored by the involved deputies and witness personnel.

DEPUTY ZACHARY GREGG

On February 7, 2020, at 1036 hours, IAB Sergeants Omar Camacho and Andy Ruiz interviewed Deputy Alex Guerra at the IAB office. Deputy Guerra was represented by Attorney Maurice Sinsley.

Deputy Gregg was assigned as 263T1 and had a civilian ride-along during his shift. They responded to an emergent call at [redacted] for a domestic violence in progress.

> **IAB Note:** **IAB investigators requested the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Palmdale Station Observer Program (Ride-Along) Application for R/A [redacted]. Palmdale Station did not have a record of it. Mr. [redacted] was on the PM Shift In-Service for Thursday July 18, 2019.**

SCC placed an update and advised via radio that if police arrived at the location, the suspect would hurt the victim. Deputy Gregg turned off his siren so the suspect would not hear deputy personnel approaching. Deputies Gregg and Guerra responded in tandem, as Deputy Guerra coordinated the response on Palmdale Metro tactical frequency.

Upon arriving, they parked their patrol vehicles one house east of the location. Deputy Gregg was able to see Suspect Chavez choking Witness [redacted] in the front yard. Suspect Chavez and Witness [redacted] were both facing Deputy Gregg, while Suspect Chavez's arm was around her neck. From a distance of approximately 100 feet, Deputy Gregg exited his vehicle and started running towards Suspect Chavez, while simultaneously giving him commands to let the female go.

Deputy Guerra followed Deputy Gregg as they approached Suspect Chavez and Witness [redacted]. Deputy Gregg could hear the Witness [redacted] gasping for air and believed he needed to act quickly. Deputy Gregg punched Suspect Chavez on the left side of his head at the temple, but the strike had no effect on him. Deputy Gregg said, "nothing happened after I punched him, so I knew I had to try a different tactic" **(Gregg Interview, p.7).** Deputy Gregg attempted a carotid restrain, but was unable to complete the hold. Deputy Gregg believed Suspect Chavez was familiar with mixed martial arts fighting, based on his defensive tactic of tucking his chin to the failed carotid restraint.

The area where the incident took place was the front lawn of the residence. The area was muddy and extremely slippery. During the physical altercation, "the suspect took us both to the ground" **(Gregg Interview, p.8).** Deputy Gregg described having a hold of Suspect Chavez's body and the suspect's legs slipped, causing them all to go to the ground.

Deputy Gregg continued to give Suspect Chavez numerous commands to release Witness [redacted]. Deputy Gregg believed Suspect Chavez was trying to kill her. Deputy Gregg grabbed Suspect Chavez's left arm and placed it in a wristlock. Suspect Chavez struck Deputy Gregg with an elbow to the face. Deputy Gregg said he felt pain to his face and lightheadedness, due to the elbow strike.

Deputy Fisher responded to the domestic violence call, activated the duplex patch, placing radio transmissions regarding deputies involved in a fight. While Deputies Gregg and Guerra were struggling with Suspect Chavez on the ground, Deputy Gregg felt the suspect grab his gun. He felt the firearm moving on his belt as Suspect Chavez was "forcing it back and forth" **(Gregg Interview, p.14).** Deputy Guerra then yelled stating Suspect Chavez had Deputy Gregg's gun. Deputy Gregg began punching Suspect Chavez in the head and rib area, but that did not stop Suspect Chavez from releasing his grip on the gun. Deputy Gregg then placed his left hand middle finger into the right eye and his left ring finger into the left eye of Suspect Chavez. Deputy Gregg started to push his fingers inward into the eyeballs of Suspect Chavez. This had an

immediate effect on Suspect Chavez, as it caused him to release the grip on Deputy Gregg's gun.

Due to this incident starting off as a domestic violence call, coupled with the suspect's actions, Deputy Gregg considered this a life threatening incident. He was fearful for himself and Deputy Guerra because Suspect Chavez continued to fight. Deputy Gregg said, "I've never had anyone fight that hard to grab my gun" **(Gregg Interview, p.16).** Deputy Gregg said he observed Deputy Guerra apply knee strikes on Suspect Chavez while they attempted to gain control of him.

Deputy [redacted] arrived on scene and assisted with the handcuffing of Suspect Chavez. Deputy Gregg said Sergeant Riddle immediately responded to the location. Deputy Gregg advised Sergeant Riddle of the incident and use of force. Deputy Gregg suffered a right hand abrasion which resulted in bleeding.

The suspect was handcuffed without further incident.

IAB Investigators asked Deputy Gregg regarding possessing a Taser. Deputy Gregg said a Taser was assigned to him, but his Taser holster was broken. He kept it in the patrol vehicle, easily accessible, prior to going on scene to a call. Deputy Gregg understood it was always part of their plan to go into a service call with a Taser. During this incident, Deputy Gregg said it happened quickly and rapidly escalated upon arrival. Deputy Gregg said, "I saw him strangling her and then I didn't even think to grab it on the way out" **(Gregg Interview, p.21)**.

Deputy Gregg wrote a supplemental report to documents his actions and observations.

DEPUTY ALEX GUERRA

On February 7, 2020, IAB Sergeants Omar Camacho and Andy Ruiz interviewed Deputy Alex Guerra at the IAB office. Deputy Guerra was represented by Attorney Maurice Sinsley.

Deputy Guerra was working Palmdale station as 263K on the date of incident. He was a single man patrol unit but was assigned a ride-along for the shift.

> **IAB Note: IAB investigators requested the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Palmdale Station Observer Program (Ride-Along) Application for R/A [redacted]. Palmdale Station did not have record of it. Mr. [redacted] (Witness) was on the PM Shift In-Service for Thursday July 18, 2019.**

They responded to a domestic violence call at [redacted]. Deputy Guerra was assigned the handle of the service call and coordinated with responding units. SCC updated the call stating if police responded to the residence the suspect would hurt the victim. He responded to the call in tandem with assisting unit Deputy Gregg. The plan was to meet at the corner, close to the location of incident.

As they drove up to the location, Deputy Gregg was the lead vehicle as Deputy Guerra followed. He saw Deputy Gregg get out of his patrol vehicle and start running toward the front yard of the house, where Suspect Chavez and Witness [redacted] were standing. He instructed the ride-along to stay in the car. Deputy Guerra followed Deputy Gregg. As Deputy Guerra came around to an area where all parties were visible, he saw Suspect Chavez and Witness [redacted] on the ground.

Suspect Chavez was strangling Witness [redacted] on the grass area as the deputies ran to assist her. Deputy Guerra described the strangling hold for IAB Investigators. He said Suspect Chavez had his right arm around the Witness [redacted] neck, causing her to not be able to breathe. Suspect Chavez was on top of Witness [redacted]. She was positioned on her stomach, laying on the grass.

Deputy Guerra positioned himself on the left side of Suspect Chavez and delivered three to four knee strikes to the upper torso. The knee strikes did not have an effect on Suspect Chavez. Deputy Guerra then delivered a couple more knee strikes to gain his compliance. As the fight continued, Deputy Guerra positioned himself toward the middle of Suspect Chavez's body and delivered a knee strike to the groin. He observed Deputy Gregg striking the Suspect Chavez on the head with his fist. Deputy Guerra believed the combination of head strikes and knee to the groin disrupted Suspect Chavez and allowed Witness [redacted] to break free.

Deputy Guerra saw Suspect Chavez grab Deputy Gregg's gun. He saw Suspect Chavez begin to move the gun out of the holster, as the "hood of the gun came undone" **(Guerra Interview, p.10).** Deputy Guerra communicated with Deputy Gregg and stated Suspect Chavez had his gun. Deputy Guerra saw this as a deadly force situation based on the Suspect Chavez's statements and actions.

Deputy Guerra placed his left hand around Suspect Chavez's neck and was able to push Suspect Chavez's hand away from Deputy Gregg's gun. Deputy Guerra retrieved his own gun and "slammed it to the side of his head" **(Guerra Interview, p.11).**

IAB Investigators asked Deputy Guerra to explain the physical contact of the firearm to Suspect Chavez's head. Deputy Guerra said he pulled his gun from his holster and slammed it to the side of Suspect Chavez's jaw.

IAB Note: IAB investigators observed the Smith & Wesson M&P 9MM firearm with X300 Surefire light attachment. The light attachment had a cracked glass lens. The X300 Surefire light had a beveled front end and protruded the gun barrel by approximately an inch. Deputy Guerra said the light attachment did not have damage prior to the incident.

Deputy Guerra told Suspect Chavez he would shoot him if he didn't stop fighting. Suspect Chavez replied, stating the deputies would have to kill him. Deputy Guerra repeated himself a second time. Suspect Chavez then complied. Deputy Guerra believed the show of force, coupled with the verbal commands given, worked in gaining Suspect Chavez's compliance.

Deputies Fisher and [redacted] responded to the location and assisted Deputies Gregg and Guerra. Deputy Fisher put out radio traffic requesting assistance. Once on scene, Deputy [redacted] was able to assist Deputy Guerra in handcuffing Suspect Chavez.

Sergeant Riddle arrived at the location and was advised of the incident and use of force. Deputy Guerra documented his actions in a SH-R-49 incident report.

DEPUTY RAQUEL FISHER

On February 21, 2020, IAB Sergeants Omar Camacho and Jeremy Carr interviewed Deputy Raquel Fisher at the IAB office. Deputy Fisher was represented by Attorney Mitchell Kander.

Deputy Fisher was working Palmdale Station as Unit 264 on the date of incident. She had an LASD Palmdale Explorer ride-along for her shift.

IAB Note: IAB investigators requested the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Palmdale Station Observer Program (Ride-Along) Application for R/A [redacted]. Palmdale Station did not have a record of it. Mr. [redacted] was on the PM Shift In-Service for Thursday July 18, 2019.

Deputy Fisher responded to [redacted] for a domestic violence call. She was the closest unit and responded with emergency lights and siren. The service call initially was broadcast as a family disturbance, but was upgraded due to the female caller indicating the spouse was going to kill her. Deputy Fisher said the response to the location was coordinated on Palmdale Metro L-Tac.

Upon arriving at the location, she saw Deputy Gregg had parked his patrol vehicle and he ran toward the residence. Deputy Fisher exited her patrol vehicle and heard a female voice screaming in front of the house. She ran toward the front of the house and heard Deputy Gregg yell at the suspect to let the victim go. Deputy Fisher saw Suspect

Chavez had his "forearm wrapped around the victim's neck as she was trying to pull away" **(Fisher Interview, p.5)**. She also saw a [redacted] later identified as Witness [redacted] attempting to pull his [redacted] away from Suspect Chavez.

Deputy Fisher observed Deputy Gregg hit Suspect Chavez a couple of times in the face, but Suspect Chavez did not let go of Witness [redacted]. Deputy Fisher recalled the grass area was muddy and slippery, which caused them to fall to the ground. Deputy Fisher immediately put out radio transmissions and advised that deputies were involved in a fight.

She observed Deputy Guerra knee strike Suspect Chavez in the ribcage area and Witness [redacted] was able to break free. Deputies continued to give Suspect Chavez commands to place his hands behind his back but he would not comply. Deputy Fisher saw Suspect Chavez grab Deputy Gregg's gun as they were actively fighting on the ground. She explained that Suspect Chavez tugged at the gun several times, trying to disarm Deputy Gregg. Deputy Fisher immediately pulled out her expandable baton and struck him once on the right arm and three times in the left ribcage area. She saw Deputy Guerra then grab Suspect Chavez's right arm, which she believed, prevented the gun from being pulled out of the holster.

Deputy Fisher considered deadly force, but her partners were in close proximity of Suspect Chavez. Deputy Fisher then saw Deputy Guerra pull out his firearm. Deputy Guerra placed the firearm on Suspect Chavez's face and told him he would get shot **(Fisher Interview, p.21)**. After continued threats of deadly force, deputy personnel were able to subdue Suspect Chavez. Deputy [redacted] arrived on scene and assisted Deputy Guerra with handcuffing Suspect Chavez.

Deputy Fisher documented her actions in a supplemental report.

DEPUTY [redacted]

On February 19, 2020, IAB Sergeants Omar Camacho and [redacted] interviewed Deputy [redacted] at Palmdale Station. Deputy [redacted] was assigned to Palmdale Station as unit 260F on the date of incident, and working with the Partners Against Crime Team (PAC).

Deputy [redacted] self-assigned himself to the domestic violence call after hearing it broadcast via radio. Upon arriving at the location, he saw Deputies Gregg, Guerra, and Fisher fighting with Suspect Chavez in the front yard of the house. He saw Suspect Chavez was lying on his stomach. Deputy Fisher was positioned toward Suspect Chavez's legs, while Deputies Gregg and Guerra were holding Suspect Chavez's arms. Deputy personnel were giving Suspect Chavez commands to stop fighting. It appeared to Deputy [redacted] that Deputies Gregg, Guerra, and Fisher were fatigued due to Suspect Chavez actively struggling with them.

Deputy [redacted] moved Deputy Gregg to assist. Deputy [redacted] grabbed Suspect Chavez's left arm and put it behind his back, while simultaneously ordering Suspect Chavez to stop fighting. Suspect Chavez initially resisted being handcuffed, but complied after numerous orders. Deputy [redacted] did not use or witness any other use of force applied on Suspect Chavez.

Deputy [redacted] documented his actions in a supplemental report.

EMPLOYEE WITNESS

SERGEANT ERIK RIDDLE

On February 19, 2020, IAB Sergeants Omar Camacho and [redacted] interviewed Sergeant Erik Riddle at Palmdale Station. Sergeant Riddle was working overtime on the date of incident. He was the field supervisor at Palmdale Station and assigned as unit 206S on PM shift.

Sergeant Riddle responded to [redacted] regarding a domestic violence call. He heard emergent radio traffic and responded with lights and siren to the call. It took Sergeant Riddle approximately 3 minutes to arrive at the location. Upon his arrival, he saw Deputy [redacted] watching over Suspect Chavez in the front yard grass area. Deputies Gregg, Guerra, and Fisher were the only other deputy personnel Sergeant Riddle remembered being at the scene.

Sergeant Riddle arrived and took over scene management. The involved deputy personnel advised Sergeant Riddle of the use of force. Sergeant Riddle later had a debriefing, discussing tactics and the actions leading up to the use of force. Sergeant Riddle does not believe de-escalation tactics were possible due to the deputies having to immediately take action, based on Suspect Chavez choking the victim.

NON-EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

[redacted] – Field Sergeant Interview

On July 18, 2019, Sergeant Riddle (260S) interviewed Witness [redacted] at [redacted] For further see video recorded interview **[EXHIBIT C – Videos]**.

[redacted]

On March 3, 2020, IAB Sergeant Omar Camacho conducted a phone recorded interview with [redacted]. Witness [redacted] was assigned to do a ride-along with Deputy Guerra on the date of incident.

IAB Note: IAB investigators requested the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Palmdale Station Observer Program (Ride-Along) Application. Palmdale Station did not have record of it. Mr. [redacted] was on the PM Shift In-Service for Thursday July 18, 2019.

Witness [redacted] was a [redacted] and had participated in over seventy five ride-alongs. Witness [redacted] had done numerous ride-alongs with Deputy Guerra and they had discussed his role in emergent situations. His role was to be a witness, and put out radio traffic if needed.

Witness [redacted] said they responded to a domestic violence call in the city of Palmdale. He heard Deputy Guerra coordinate the call with Deputy Gregg as they responded to the residence. Upon arriving at the location, he saw Deputies Gregg and Guerra running toward the area where Suspect Chavez was holding Witness [redacted] Witness [redacted] said he heard a loud disturbance.

Witness [redacted] proceeded toward the disturbance and saw Suspect Chavez and Witness [redacted] on the ground. Suspect Chavez was positioned "on top of a female, choking her" **([redacted] Interview, p.2).** Witness [redacted] then focused his attention on the family members coming out of the residence. Witness [redacted] said the [redacted] were crying and concerned for [redacted] (Witness [redacted]). His view was obstructed and did not see the deputies' actions. Emergent radio traffic was broadcast and deputy personnel responded to assist.

SUSPECT INTERVIEW

Suspect Jorge Chavez – Field Sergeant Interview

On July 18, 2019, Sergeant Grimes (261S) interviewed Suspect Chavez at PRM. For further see video recorded interview **[EXHIBIT C – Videos]**.

Suspect Jorge Chavez – IAB Interview

On July 19, 2019, IAB Sergeants Omar Camacho, John Steele, and Lieutenant Minh Dinh interviewed Suspect Chavez at Palmdale Station.

Suspect Chavez said he went to the residence to see his [redacted] and speak with her about their [redacted] problems. She told Suspect Chavez she was going to call the police. When he saw the police arrive he looked at her in disbelief and "hugged her real tight." Suspect Chavez said he got scared. He tried to cover himself and was pushing the deputies off.

Suspect Chavez saw a metal object and what appeared to be the front of a gun next to his eye. He was knocked out, as deputy personnel struck him in the ribs and kneed

him. Suspect Chavez said he couldn't breathe after that. Suspect Chavez said his [redacted], [redacted], and [redacted] were present during the incident. His [redacted] did not witness the incident.

Suspect Chavez grabbed his [redacted] and hugged her when the deputies arrived. He was scared and "things got real out of hand" **(Chavez interview, p.5)**. Suspect Chavez saw a deputy hit him with a metal object next to his right eye. Suspect Chavez said "just fucking kill me" **(Chavez Interview, p.6)** because he had lost everything. He tried to cover himself because he was getting hit and was trying to get the deputies off him. Suspect Chavez admitted to pushing the deputies and trying to cover up, which allowed deputy personnel to pull the victim away from him.

Suspect Chavez saw the front of a gun and described the impact as "wham, straight into my eye" **(Chavez Interview, p. 7).** Suspect Chavez believed he was knocked unconscious because he blacked out. He woke up and remembered being kneed on the ribs, kicked on the back, and punched in the face. Suspect Chavez remembered being hit with a gun once. Suspect Chavez admitted to trying to get the deputies off of him, but denied placing his hands on a deputy's gun.

Suspect Chavez complained of pain to the right side of his head, right eye, and jaw. He stated he was not resisting the deputies, he was just covering his face from the blows they were giving him. Suspect Chavez admitted to "squeezing her hard" **(Chavez Interview, p.21)** and not letting the victim go when ordered to by the deputies. He threatened to kill himself and Witness [redacted] but said he would not do that. Suspect Chavez did not remember if he struck anyone.

IAB Note: Suspect Chavez admitted to smoking marijuana on the date of incident and doing a line of methamphetamine a couple days prior.

Suspect Chavez was treated for his injuries and seen by medical staff. IAB Investigators obtained a signed medical waiver from Suspect Chavez.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

On July 19, 2019, IAB Investigators returned to the residence where the incident occurred. The residents at [redacted] were uncooperative and refused to speak with us. On February 19, 2020 IAB Sergeant Camacho returned to the residence.

A door knock at the location resulted in no answer. A business card with IAB Investigator contact information, was left at the location. A certified Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Letter, which contained IAB investigator contact information was sent. **(See Miscellaneous Documents)**

IAB Investigators spoke with Mrs. [redacted] (FH/[redacted]) who resides at [redacted] Ms. [redacted] received Sergeant Camacho's business card and called the IAB office. Ms. [redacted] said [redacted] no longer lived at the indicated residence. Witness [redacted] family moved out after the incident and did not inform of new location in fear of Suspect Jorge Chavez. Mrs. [redacted] provided a phone number for Witness [redacted].

On March 9, 2020 IAB Investigators contacted [redacted] via phone. She did not want to be interviewed and requested we do not contact her [redacted] for this investigation.

IAB Investigators contacted [redacted] MH/A and [redacted] MH/A. They were both on the Palmdale Station PM In-Service as scheduled ride-alongs on July 18, 2019. Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] both told IAB Investigators they were not witnesses to the use of force.